orchard loaded with divers fruits, or to all the trees on the earth's surface ; or as a single leaf bears to the whole leaves of a forest, or to all the natural products of our globe. Beyond the sidereal heavens, there may be systems differing from our system—from these clusters of stars—as much as the plant differs from the stone, or the animal from the plant, or the mind from the. body. " When nature," says Hume, " has so entirely diversified her manner of operation in this small globe, can we imagine she incessantly copies herself throughout so immense a universe ?"* Sir Isaac Newton thinks it may be allowed that God might make " worlds of several sorts in several parts of the universe/'f That law of gravitation which astronomers all but deify, may turn out, after all, to regulate, but a comparatively small portion of the bodies that people universal space. There may be myriads of other systems as grand and as glorious as ours, regulated by other laws equally beautiful; and manifesting, by their variety, the infinite riches of the Divine perfections. Geologists would enlarge our conceptions of Time by unfolding the progressive epochs of the earth's history. But we would be inclined to extend our conceptions into eternity, beyond even the unnumbered years of the geologic eras. There may have been other epochs which had come to a close before the history of our Cosmos began.

But however this may be, it seems as if, within limited space and time, there is a distinct compartment of God's works, which we call the Cosmos. This compartment, no doubt, has points of junction with others, but it may itself be separate ; and it seems as if within it there is a system of uniform laws. The mountains in the moon—the apparent sea and land in Mars—the aerolites that fall from the heavens—the circumstance that our sun is a star in a particular galaxy, said to be hastening towards a point in the constellation Hercules,

and that there are other and similar galaxies,—all seem to point to a homogeneity in the bodies which ore to be found in knowable space. The connexion of the present state of the earth with the previous changes on the earth's surface, the traces in former epochs of the laws that are still in operation, and the prevalence of homologous forms, show that there has been a uniformity in all mowable time.

* Dial. on Nat. Rel., p. 2. † Optics.